his National Catholic Register resource is made possible through the cooperation of bishops, college presidents, our benefactors and our advertisers. This year, 38 schools went on record in answer to these questions:

Text of the Questionnaire We Sent to Catholic Colleges

1. Did the president make the public “Profession of Faith” and take the “Oath of Fidelity”?
2. Is the majority of the board of trustees Catholic?
3. Is the majority of the faculty Catholic?
4. Do you publicly require all Catholic theology professors to have the mandate?
5. Did all Catholic theology professors take the “Oath of Fidelity”?
6. Do you provide daily Mass and posted times (at least weekly) for individual confession?
7. Do you exclude advocates of abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem-cell research, cloning or advocates of the redefinition of marriage as commencement speakers and/or recipients of honorary degrees?
8. Do you exclude sponsoring campus groups and clubs that are not in line with Catholic teaching (examples: abortion- and LGBT-related clubs)? If allowed, please explain.
9. Do you prohibit coed dorms?
10. Do your student health services prohibit referrals to abortion businesses?

What Goes Into Choosing a College?

Students Share Advice About Decision Process

BY PAULINA HOEING

"My process of choosing a college taught me a lot about God's plan for my life," said Jacie Pavia, who is from Stratford, Connecticut, and has been studying at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, for the past two years. "It taught me, "that if you put out the best efforts and try to follow what I believe God has put in my path, he will have my decision."

For young men and women seeking to choose the college that will best form them spiritually, intellectually and professionally, Pavia and other current college students stand as examples and sources of both practical and spiritual wisdom.

In fact, the Catholic college students that the Register spoke with all emphasized these three components of a Catholic college — the spiritual, intellectual and professional — as important touchstones in the discernment process.

"For and foremost," advises Pavia, "pray about your college-decision process. God will make it clear which school he has in mind for you. Start with what is right in front of you, and don't worry if the process seems simpler than it should be."

Similarly, Ariel Aguilar, a senior business major from New Orleans who is attending Ave Maria University in Ave Maria, Florida, says students "try not to be anxious. Trust that God is going to reveal his plan when it is time."

Debora Mahlak, of Avon, Connecticut, will graduate from the University of Dallas this year with a degree in theatre and business. She emphasizes the importance of considering the practical along with the spiritual in the decision process.

"I think it is very important to start from a practical side, as well. Though we are called to live in the world, we are called to live in the world."

Knowing that she wanted to end up working in theater made Mahlak's decision clear.

"The University of Dallas offered a solid curriculum and variety of degrees which would enable me to be more competitive for jobs after college. This, along with the opportunity to be around people of a similar faith and moral background, made it a perfect fit for me."

Zachary Mercugliano, an engineering student from Durham, Connecticut, who is enrolled in Franklin's four-to-five-year dual-degree engineering program, says that his selection of schools to apply to "wasn't really initially in major availability." After declining his offers of study, Mercugliano quickly narrowed down to the three that offered his desired degree.

A native of Croydon, New Hampshire, Maria Kaylor is a junior nursing student attending the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota. She said that her discernment process focused mainly on her faith.

"When I decided I wanted to go to a Catholic school," she told the Register. "I knew I wanted to get the ethical Catholic Church teaching."

While acknowledging that practical concerns and major availability are important factors, Pavia also urged students. "Don't settle on a school solely for a major, because attending an authentically Catholic university can be so much more than a degree, as important as it is."

Students express similar opinions that an education from an authentically Catholic university is not just about a degree and a job. It is about the overall character of the school, and, ultimately, about growing closer to Christ. CONTINUE ON PAGE B8
There are the 38 schools that each answered 10 questions about their college's institutional standards and campus culture. A check mark indicates a positive answer to our Catholic identity question. Schools’ comments expanding upon a “yes” answer and explaining a “No” or N/A answer are included, as well as more comments (denoted by *).

View online at NCRegister.com / “Resources.”
Ave Maria University

The University of Denver – Magness Arena • Denver, CO 
Saturday • September 21, 2019

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The bigger the family, the better! If you’d like to register a group, please contact Viewer Services at: viewer@ewtn.com or call 714-607-4701 (800).
ATTACKS ON THE CHURCH ARE MOUNTING

For more than a quarter century, I have been the president of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights. Never have I seen more vicious attacks against the Church than today. Priests, especially, are being libeled and slandered on a daily basis—all because of a small minority of offenders (most of whom are either dead or out of ministry).

We fight back at the Catholic League, and we do so with impressive results. There is no other Catholic organization that can match our string of victories.

Don't make the mistake of thinking that just because you are not a victim of defamation that all is fine and good. It is not. The fact is the Church is under assault from the media, Hollywood, the artistic community, and government. And nowhere is it bashed more than on college campuses.

Membership in the Catholic League is $30 a year; $20 for seniors. You receive a monthly journal, *Catholic League*, that details the attacks on the Church and what we are doing about it. Please consider joining us in this important mission.

See our website, www.catholicleague.org, to find out how to join. Or call us at (212) 371-3191.

Bill Donohue
President

CATHOLIC LEAGUE
*For Religious and Civil Rights*
A liberal arts education aims to free men and women from the constraints of error, false opinion, and the uncertainty of life. This was at the heart of the great Greek educational system—padas—this, united to faith in Christ, is the heart of the Catholic education. There is no student health coverage for students. 

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College
P.O. Box 299
Davenport, Iowa, 52801
Phone:(563) 581-5800
Fax: (563) 581-5802
Email: info@swc.edu
Enrollment: approximately 74

Mass is celebrated weekly; the adjacent Parish Center offers Masses and confession daily. The College offers a student health-insurance plan but no health coverage for students. 

Theological Oath: Emanuel Swedenborg and the uncertainty of life. This was at the heart of the Catholic education. There is no student health coverage for students.

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The Institution:

Enrollment: 93

ThomasMoreCollege.edu

Merrimack, NH 03257
6 Manchester St.

Arts

Thomas More College of Liberal Studies

Mass times.

form, in English and Latin.

all others are offered in the ordinary form.

of these Masses. The first Mass of the week, Mass is offered four times daily,

urdays and three on Sundays. Confes-

sions are heard before and after each Mass.

Though Thomas Aquinas College opened its doors 20 years prior to the promulgation of Ex Corde Ecclesiae, its founding document foreshadowed in many ways Pope St. John Paul II’s directives to Catholic universities and colleges. Our mission is to provide a genuinely Catholic liberal education under the light of the teaching Church and according to the guidance of the universal doctor of the Church, St. Thomas Aquinas.

The college has two campuses — one in California and the other in Massachusetts — and offers its classes. Graduates go on to a wide variety of fields: law, medicine, education, journalism, public policy, business, technology and the arts. The college is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and has official recognition from the Holy See.

Masses are offered four times daily, with two Masses offered on Saturdays and three on Sundays. Confessions are heard before and after each Mass. The first Mass of the week, Mass is offered four times daily, with two Masses offered on Saturdays and three on Sundays.

Students are challenged to reach into the wisdom of the past and read, reflect and act on it. But is that narrative correct? Are the cultural values of consumerism, ecological sustainability, economic well-being, pleasure, youth and cultural diversity capable of fulfilling their ultimate purpose?

The program of studies at Thomas More College is ordered towards the pursuit of wisdom. Each person in each campus to the greatest minds are in disagree-

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The Benedictine Sisters of An-...
Wyoming Catholic College
Jiutes East and West in Faith

BY SUE ELLEN BROWDER

LANDER, Wyo. — A small Wyoming town (population 7,500) situated under the mountains and surrounded by ranches is hardly the place you’d expect to find some of the most beautiful liturgy in America. And yet that’s what greeted 54 new freshmen here at the consecration Mass in Holy Rosary Catholic Church August 25, as Wyoming Catholic College launched its 2019-20 academic year. After spending 24 days together on a physically and spiritually demanding wilderness trip in the breathtaking grandeur of the Wind River and Tetons Mountains, the budding young scholars were welcomed home “to an intellectually demanding school year by Chrysostom Bishop Street, chaplain.

Also-attending Mass and the concelebrations that followed were college staff, faculty, priests, parents, and friends.

The overarching vision for the type of classical liberal education offered at Wyoming Catholic College is to immerse students into the good, the true, and the beautiful so they can come to know the world in a poetic way through the imagination and be inspired to ask the big question. What is the meaning of life? What is evil? What is good? What is beauty? Is there virtue? Is there purpose?

In an interview following the Mass, Bishop Street spoke of the “formation of the whole person” that Catholic education seeks. An authentic Catholic education like that offered at Wyoming Catholic College, he observed, seeks to “form a young person body and mind, heart and soul, faith and reason.” He continued, “We seek to form disciples who think, speak and act like Christ. That’s why Catholic education includes helping young people learn how to pray the way Jesus prayed.”

Incoming freshman, Cecilia Winner, 19, from Aurora, Illinois, said that balanced emphasis on the body, mind and spirit was what initially drew her to the college. “I think a lot of problems and complicated situations come down to a lack of balance in your life,” she said. She believes the balanced way students are taught here has an “important mindset to have”—and to hard to find in our present society.

Another freshman, 19-year-old Sofia Pifieiras from Vail, Colorado, said that while she’s fascinated with fine art and fine-art restorations, she realized she couldn’t pursue art well “without coming first here. I thought that to fully live life, I needed to be formed wholly. And the education here—this whole integral view of life—is everything: your mind, body, and soul all coming together.”

Anthony Lizio, 20, from Hartland, Michigan, had gone to a community college and was planning to transfer to a state university to study welding and engineering when a friend who attends Wyoming Catholic College convinced him to attend the college. He witnessed a literal education like that at Wyoming Catholic “forms you to do things well. It doesn’t just give you the tools. It forms you as a person to be able to learn whatever you’re called to learn and do it so much better than anyone else. So that’s where the practical aspect of this college comes in.”

He also likes the fact the college “takes your college away from you” when you arrive. He said being far away from the world you were once in and being tossed into the wilderness for three weeks “forces you to think in a certain way and to encounter God” in a way that’s impossible amidst so many worldly distractions.

In the community college he attended, he didn’t make a single friend in two years. But being out in the wilderness, crossing rivers and climbing peaks, has given him “a bond with these men that I would never have found anywhere else.”

To further its mission of integrating faith with reason and educating the whole person, the college now has two chaplains: Father Paul Ward, who offers Holy Mass in both the ordinary and extraordinary forms of the Roman Rite, and Byzantine Rite chaplain Father David Anderson, a well-known lawyer on liturgical theology and the early Church Fathers. The two priests work together as a team, along with Holy Rosary priest Father James Schumacher, to provide students with a complete immersion in both Eastern and Western liturgical traditions.

Referring to the first millenniums of Christian history, Pope St. John Paul II wrote in 1995 of the “light of the East” and urgently called for the Catholic Church “to breathe with both lungs.”

“Every time we celebrate the Eucharist...we find in the Body and Blood and the Spirit of our unity,” he wrote. “We should not lose, not even diminish, our traditional sense of the Eastern Christian Church as a spiritual heritage of Christ’s Church.”

He observed, “‘first need’ for Roman Catholics “to be familiar with that tradition, so as to be nourished by it and to encourage the process of unity.”

The college president, Glenn Arbery, expands on this idea, saying, “When Pope John Paul spoke of the ‘two lungs’ of the Church—and what a superb metaphor it was—he was calling for us as an EDGE and the attempt to draw upon only half of the available spirituality. Students at Wyoming Catholic College now have the rare opportunity to experience the wholeness of the traditional faith.”

Incoming freshman Zechary Lee, son of a Byzantine Rite Catholic priest in Sugar Creek, Missouri, suggested that the Byzantine Liturgy, with its icons, singing and incense—which engage “all of your senses”—has “a very special place at Wyoming Catholic. I know they’ve had opportunities for [the Byzantine liturgy] before, but never with this intensity.”

The integrated form of Great Books education the new freshmen here is rare in many ways. According to Donald Delio, president of the Newman Idea, about 4.5 million Catholic students are currently attending colleges and universities in the United States. Yet approximately 14,000—about 4.5% of all Catholic undergraduates in higher education in America—are attending schools ranked as “recommended” by the Cardinal Newman Society for their adherence to Catholic teaching. A reliance to promote teaching the traditional faith may even have led some Catholic colleges to fold, as college students seek smaller enrollment and endowments that downplay their distinctive religious identity.

Similarly, incoming freshman Lee, son of a Byzantine Rite Catholic priest, has grown from 35 in 2007 (when he started at WCC) to 95 now.

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